



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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State Water Control Board Notice of Public Comment Period Aquatic Life Use Attainability Analysis Study Plan For Straight Creek

In accordance with Virginia Code § 62.1-44.19:7, the Board conditionally approved at their March 2007 meeting the request from the Virginia Mining Issues Group (Group) to conduct a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) for Straight Creek in Lee County. One of the conditions was to present a study plan for public comment and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) approval before initiation of the UAA study.

A UAA study plan has been submitted to the DEQ on behalf of the Group to conduct an aquatic life use study to determine whether or not human caused conditions and hydrologic modifications are limiting attainment of the designated aquatic life use in Straight Creek. A UAA is a structured scientific assessment of the factors affecting the attainment of the designated use. Designated uses are those uses specified in water quality standards for each water body or segment whether or not they are being attained. The agency is seeking comment on the submitted UAA study plan. Agency approval of the study plan is pending review of comment submitted. If the study indicates that the current designated use is unattainable, study results may indicate an appropriate use category for regulatory consideration.

The comment period begins December 24, 2007 and ends February 14, 2008.

The document submitted to the agency by the Group may be found at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/wqs> or obtained from the contact person listed below.

Comments should be received by February 14, 2008 and submitted by mail to David C. Whitehurst, Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. 1105, Richmond, VA 23218, or 629 E. Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219, or via email to dcwhitehurst@deq.virginia.gov or fax (804) 698-4116. Phone number for questions is (804)698-4121.